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newsteam@irts.ie **March 2016**

St Patricks Day Award



The third Annual St Patrick's day Award festivities will be held over a 24 hour period from 00:00 UTC on Thursday the 17th of March. The event is run by RSGB Region 8 (Northern Ireland) and is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other stations around the world. Why not register your Club or your own callsign as a qualifying station for those chasing the award. Details of the award categories and how to register your station are available from <http://stpatrickaward.webs.com/>

TXFactor



The 10th episode of TX factor is now available for viewing on YouTube. There has been long gap since the issue last September. The 10th episode covers the link from Goonhilly to the International Space Station using the dish antenna that made history in the early 1960s for reception of Telstar, the first TV Satellite. More from www.txfilms.co.uk/txfactor/txf010.shtml

Lough Erne ARC Rally

The Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club Rally will be held on Sunday the 8th of May at SHARE Centre, Lisnakea, Co. Fermanagh BT92 0EQ. There is a Bus Eireann service 30 to/from Derrylin and the SHARE Bus will connect with this service. Information and updates may be found at www.learc.eu and tables may be booked through Mark, EI4HDB. This is an excellent venue for a summer family weekend.

Lagan Valley ARS Rally

The Lagan Valley Amateur Radio Society Rally will take place in the Village Centre, 7 Ballynahinch Road, Hillsborough, BT26 6AR on Saturday the 5th of March. Doors open at 11am, car parking and refreshments available Contact Jim, GI0DVU at 048 92662270.

Causeway Coast and Glens ARC



The Causeway and Glens Amateur Radio Club will be holding their Rally at the Bushmills Community Centre, 14 Dunlace Road, Bushmills, Co. Antrim, BT57 8QG on Sunday the 20th of March. Doors open at 11am. There will be a free Bring & Buy. More info: www.causewaycoastandglen.wix.com/

IRTS AGM



It is essential that any 2015 Cups or Trophies are returned to Jim, EI4HH Awards Manager as soon as possible to enable him to prepare them for their new recipients. Anybody who intends to enter a project for the Folan Shield (home constructed equipment) should study the rules and requirements in order to enter.

Tickets for the IRTS dinner may be purchased by contacting Tony, EI2AW, at 061 339476 or by email to condona@eircom.net Payment may be made by cheque or via Paypal. The Limerick Radio Club Rally will be held on Sunday the 10th and doors open at 11am with an entrance fee of 5 Euro.



IRTS AGM 2016

9/10 April 2016

Radisson Blu Hotel, Limerick



Dinner tickets & Rally information contact EI7ALB 087 285 8884

www.irts.ie/agm

Cork Radio Club Meeting



The next Cork Radio Club meeting will be held on Wednesday the 4th of March at 8pm at the Carrigtwohill Community Centre. Sean, EI3GS will continue his look back on maritime radio in times past. In his presentation he will talk about his experiences on the famous tug "Turmoil" and the truth about the Flying Enterprise.

Kerry Amateur Radio Group

The next meeting of the Kerry Amateur Radio Group will be held on Saturday the 26th of March in the upstairs Café, Manor West, Tralee at 11am. On Sunday the 28th of March the KARG will participate in the Maurice Collins vintage day and will active as EI1K on 40 – 6 metres to facilitate the activation of WAI Square Q72 and IO52CI. On Monday the 29th of March KARG will participate in the spring leg of the 2 metre counties contest. As always visitors are very welcome to join in the fun. Check www.kerryamateurradiogroup.com

Dundalk ARS 2m handheld Raffle

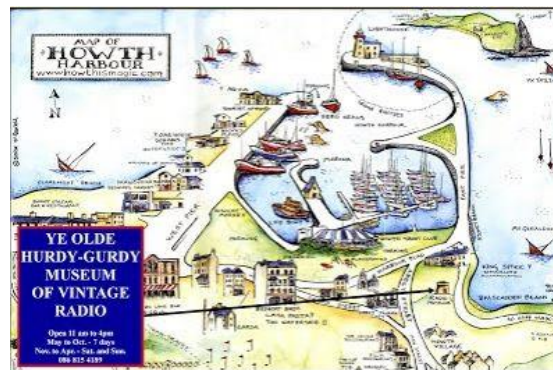
The Dundalk Amateur Radio Society will hold a draw for a brand new MYT-Q1V VHF, 136 – 174 MHz handheld radio. To be included in the draw, make a minimum amount donation to Dundalk Amateur Radio Society. Click the Donation button on the EI7DAR webpage to be included in the draw or, alternatively, come along to the club meeting.

Avondu Radio Club

Amateur radio classes commenced in late September and continue into spring with 8 participants. We wish them every success in obtaining their Amateur Radio Licences in the coming months.

The Hudy Gurdy Museum

The Hurdy Gurdy Museum is open at weekends from 11am until 4pm until the end of April. From May until October, it opens 7 days a week. Further information from ei0mar@eircom.net



International Space Station

International Space Station Commander, Scott Kelly, and Flight Engineer Mikhail Kornienko, who have been living in space since March last year, will be returning home on Tuesday evening the 1st of March with Soyuz Commander Sergey Volkov. Kelly will hand over command of the orbital laboratory to Tim Kopra. When the Soyuz Spacecraft undocks on Tuesday, Expedition 47 will officially begin with Flight Engineers Tim Peake and Yuri Malanchenko staying behind with Kopra.

Amateur Radio operation continues on the ISS and much of the time the Space Station equipment operates in automatic mode. It can act as an AX.25 packet repeater, voice repeater or transmit Slow Scan Television (SSTV) pictures. Voice and SSTV transmissions take place on 145.800 MHz FM, when they are not active AX.25 packet may be heard on 145.825 MHz. The ISS is in a low orbit, and is in range 5 or 6 times each day for approximately 10 minutes.

Contests March 2016

WA7BNM Contest Calendar : RSGB HF Contests : UKEICC Contests : IRTS Contests

Wed 2	20:00	60 mins	UKEICC 80m SSB	work everyone, exchange Locators, e.g. IO63
Sat 5	00:00	48 hours	ARRL DX SSB	160-10m, work W/VE stations, send TX Power
Sun 6	07:00	4 hours	UBA Spring 80m CW	work ON only, send Serial, log ON Section
Mon 7	20:00	90 mins	RSGB 80m CC Data	work UK only, exchange Serials
Wed 16	20:00	90 mins	RSGB 80m CC CW	work UK only, exchange Serials
Sat 19	12:00	24 hours	Russian DX CW/SSB	160-10m, work everyone, log oblast code
Sun 20	07:00	4 hours	UBA Spring 80m SSB	work ON only, send Serial, log ON Section
Thu 24	20:00	90 mins	RSGB 80m CC SSB	work UK only, exchange Serials
Sat 26	00:00	48 hours	CQ WPX SSB	160-10m, exchange Serials, work everyone
Mon 28	2.00pm	2 hours	IRTS 2m FM/SSB	work everyone, send Serial, County
		local		
Wed 30	20:00	60 mins	UKEICC 80m CW	work everyone, exchange Locators, e.g. IO63
Every Wed			CWops Mini Contests	three separate 60-minute CW contests